

Dear Legislators:

I am writing in support of HB 5399. Animals are living, sentient beings and deserve to be treated with the utmost respect. This includes the end of their life. Although I do not support euthanasia of healthy, adoptable animals, which 90% of the ones in shelters are, I do believe that a being's life should be ended without pain, humanely and ONLY by licensed, trained veterinarians, using Pentobarbital. Anyone else who is ending the life of an animal, who is not a veterinarian, is causing pain, suffering and harm to the animal. Any other means of euthanasia is also cruel and unusual death.

It is horrific to animals that they are subject to euthanasia by people who are not licensed nor trained. This could also be called murder, as there is no protocol or standards used in these cases. The Humane Society should be *humane*, as their name implies, and only be allowed to end the lives of sentient beings in a manner which causes the least amount of stress, harm and fear. Just because these animals live in a shelter, does not mean they are not living beings.

The fact that CT allows this practice currently is draconian and deplorable. I urge you to pass HB5399.

Thank you.  
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